

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed in response to an Office Action mailed 05/05/2005, in which the Examiner said that claims 1-25 were pending but rejected. In this amendment, claims 1, 13, and 19 are amended to overcome grounds for rejection, and claim 6 is canceled. Since the Office Action was made final, this amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination.

Claims Rejected under 35 USC §103

The Examiner additionally said that claims 1-7 and 11-24 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,832,316 to Sibert, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,537 to Tello, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,507,911 to Langford. The Examiner additionally said that claims 8-9 and 25 were rejected under 33 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over a modified Sibert, Tello, and Langford system, further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,544,356 to Robinson et al. The Examiner also said that claims 8, 10, and 25 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over a modified Sibert, Tello, and Langford, further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,070,174 to Starek et al. The Examiner additionally indicated that claims 1-25 were rejected as previously described but in view of JP2001202167A.

In this amendment, independent claims 1, 13, and 19 are modified to indicate that the data structure is encrypted to prevent reading information stored in the data records with the computer readable medium removed from the computing system. Support for this modification is found in the specification as originally filed on page 1, lines 15-17. Claim 1 is additionally modified to indicate that the data structure is encrypted using the public key of the computer system so that the private key of the computer system must be subsequently used for decryption. Support for this modification is found in the specification as filed on

page 22, lines 11-17, and on page 25, lines 20-24.

Also in this amendment, claim 6 is canceled because its limitations have been placed in claim 1.

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The prior art cited by the Examiner fails to anticipate an encryption process being used to prevent data being read from a computer readable medium when it is removed from the computer system. Sibert describe a technique for integrating message authentication with encryption and decryption, so that the technique requires that the message must be read and authenticated at a remote location. Langford describes a method for deleting data. Robinson et al. describes a non-volatile memory that is erasable only in blocks. Starek describes data structures. Tello describes a system for using a smart card to enable a booting process. As far as the Japanese patent can be understood from the translation of its abstract, the Japanese patent describes encryption occurring at power off and decryption occurring at power on. This may be done for another reason, such as preventing the stealing of data during the night without removing the removable medium.

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Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art cited by the Examiner does not teach or anticipate the requirement of claims 1, 19, and 13, as amended herein, for the encryption process being used to prevent the data from being read with the computer readable medium removed from the computing system, and that, therefore, claims 1, 13, and 19 are patentable over the cited prior art. The Applicants additionally respectfully submit that, since the dependent claims 2-5 and 7-12 merely add limitations to claim 1, since the dependent claims 14-18 merely add limitations to claim 13, and since the dependent claims 20-25 merely add limitations to claim 19, these dependent claims are similarly patentable over the cited prior art.

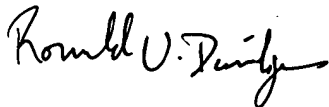
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Conclusions

The Applicants respectfully submit that the application, including claims 1-5 and 7-25, is now in condition for allowance, and that action is earnestly requested, with reconsideration and withdrawal of all reasons given for rejections.

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Respectfully submitted,



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